



## **Bulletin - Afternoon of April 2, 2012**

### **Quote of the Day:**

“Albertans need access to health care services in their own community,” says Premier Alison Redford. “Currently we have three pilot Family Care Clinics operating in the province. We will evaluate their performance and make adjustments to provide better service in communities throughout the province.”

### **Premier's Schedule:**

Calgary, AB - Alberta Premier Alison Redford will be attending the following public events Monday April 2, 2012.

**Strathmore** - 9:15 AM Announcement: Main Street Strathmore, 106 1st Ave, (Outside of Rocky's Bakery)

**Strathmore** - 9:45 AM Photo Op: Rocky's Bakery 106 1st Ave

**Brooks** - 11:30 AM Photo Op: Arno Doerksen Brooks Campaign Office 519 2nd Street SW

**Brooks** - 12:00 PM Media Availability: Arno Doerksen Brooks Campaign Office #519 2nd Street SW

**Medicine Hat** - 4:45 PM Photo Op: Inland Skateboard Park Kin Coulee Park

**Medicine Hat** - 5:30 PM Photo Op: Darren Hirsch Campaign Office #100, 579 3rd Street SE

**Medicine Hat** - 6:15 PM Photo Op: Local Public Eatery with local Social Media enthusiasts #1051 Ross Glen Drive SE

### **News Today:**

**The rush to spend Alberta's windfall is on:** Sweeping promises to slash the family budget by dangling cold-hard cash and other financial incentives has now turned the election campaign in oil-rich Alberta into an escalating game of high-stakes poker.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/alberta-election/the-rush-to-spend-albertas-windfall-is-on/article2389274/>

## **Issues For Immediate Response:**

### **Opposition Responses: Wildrose**

#### **Wildrose Energy Dividend:**

#### **Our Response:**

- In another “Back to the Future” moment, Danielle Smith has promised to buy back support from Albertans with her “Danielle’s Dollars.”
- This is what happens when you put blind ideology ahead of real life experience.
- It is clear that Danielle Smith’s priorities are cut health care, education and infrastructure investment to grow the Heritage Savings Trust Fund and send Albertans \$300 cheques.
- Between this announcement, a \$200B Heritage Fund, and legislation banning deficits – the numbers don’t add up.
- So it means enormous cuts to health care, education, infrastructure and social service – thousands of teachers, thousands of nurses, thousands of doctors, thousands of public servants. Are we to believe Albertans will be happy with a couple of hundred dollars in exchange for private health care and fewer services?

#### **Secondary Messages:**



- Obviously Wild Rose has now accepted our revenue projects – after calling our budget Alison in Wonderland.
- What happens if oil & gas revenue stagnates? With the safety net of the sustainability fund sent to Albertans \$300 at a time, the service cuts will be inevitable.
- Giving people back a fraction of the money they will need for private health care insurance seems a little callous.

## Media & Opinion Leaders' Responses:

[@acoyme](#) Andrew Coyne, columnist National Post:

-  **Andrew Coyne** @acoyme 2h  
This is a terrible idea. @AndreaSlobodian: SUN EXCLUSIVE: Get ready for Smithbucks [calgarysun.com/2012/04/02/eve...](http://calgarysun.com/2012/04/02/eve...) #abvote
-  **Andrew Coyne** @acoyme 1m  
Gack! Cynical idiocy. @wicary: Wildrose's Smith promises 'energy dividends' if elected in #abvote [tgam.ca/D46t](http://tgam.ca/D46t) #cdnpoli

[@dgardner](#) Dan Gardner, National Post Columnist, author 'Future Babble: Why Expert Predictions Fail – and Why We Believe Them Anyway' and 'Risk: The Science and Politics of Fear':

-  **Dan Gardner** @dgardner 14m  
Free money! You want free money? Elect me! [bit.ly/HJARCr](http://bit.ly/HJARCr)
-  **Dan Gardner** @dgardner ◀ Reply ↗ Retweet ★ Favorite · Open  
If Danielle Smith wins, and she does this, she'll be as popular as Alaska governor Sarah Palin was. And just as smart. [bit.ly/HJARCr](http://bit.ly/HJARCr)

[@DuaneBratt](#) Duane Bratt Mount Royal University Political Science Prof:

-  **Duane Bratt** @DuaneBratt 1h  
Campaigns are often about bribing people with their own money. #WRP promise of energy dividends is clear example of this. #abvote
-  **Duane Bratt** @DuaneBratt 1h  
How can #WRP increase the Heritage Trust Fund AND issue energy dividends AND balance the budget? #abvote
-  **Duane Bratt** @DuaneBratt 25m  
@TransientMind Do Albertans also want the amount of education & health care spending that Alaska has? #abvote  
◀ In reply to R. Olson
-  **Duane Bratt** @DuaneBratt ◀ Reply ↗ Retweet ★ Favorite 18m  
#WRP criticized govts energy budget projections. But rebates & Heritage increases require even higher energy prices. #abvote

[@josh\\_wingrove](#) Josh Wingrove, Globe and Mail:



**Josh Wingrove** @josh\_wingrove

33m

They're popular, but has any journalist found an economist who thinks rebates are sound policy? @andrew\_leach? #abvote

[@calgarygrit](#) Dan Arnold, Blogger, Statistician, National Post Contributor:



**Dan Arnold** @calgarygrit

14m

Wildrose's April Fools "Merge AB and Sask" policy more realistic than their budget costing: tax cuts, rebates, no cuts, no deficits! #ABVote



**Dan Arnold** @calgarygrit

58m

Unless Danielle Smith won Mega Millions jackpot this weekend, I have a hard time seeing how her math works - [wildrose.ca/pledge/energy-](http://wildrose.ca/pledge/energy-) ... #ABVote

[@DavidStaplesYEG](#) David Staples, columnist Edmonton Journal, award winning writer:



**David Staples** @DavidStaplesYEG

3m

@StevenDollansky Seems like Wildrose is throwing around money figures and promises like presents on Christmas morning. #abvote  
← In reply to Steven Dollansky



**David Staples** @DavidStaplesYEG

18m

I've got 5 kids, will make out well with new Ralph bucks, family treats from Wildrose. But I'd still rather see LRT, C-train funded. #abvote



**David Staples** @DavidStaplesYEG

24m

So what did you spend your Ralph Bucks on? I think I bought a TV. #abvote

[@colbycosh](#) Colby Cosh, Assistant Editor, Maclean's



**Colby Cosh** @colbycosh

3m

Most interesting news in #abvote, for my money, is Redford's family care megaclinics. Tho costing of WRP goodies is becoming issue for sure.

**Social Media Update:**

Twitter accounts to follow:

**@Premier\_Redford**

**@PC\_Alberta**

**@PCAB\_Comms**